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TO: EXEC - Amb. Albright
THROUGH: EXEC - Amb. Gnehm
FROM: POL - Cameron R. Hume *TM*
SUBJECT: Burundi

1. The Czechs have circulated a draft presidential statement on Burundi (attached). We can agree to the text as is.

2. In a broader discussion of the Secretary-General's comments on Burundi, we should agree with the SYG that a vigorous program of preventive diplomacy is necessary to prevent, if possible, a degeneration of the situation in Burundi. The diplomatic initiative should include support for:

-- Deployment of human rights monitors in Burundi;
-- Continuing technical assistance to judicial administration and human rights education programs;
-- Visits by high-level officials on a regular basis to remind the Burundians of international interest in their situation;
-- A regional summit conference on refugees to discuss repatriation and protection of human rights.

3. However, we do not favor the creation of a multilateral quick reaction force to intervene if civil war breaks out in Burundi. The U.S. would not participate in such a force and doubts whether sufficient numbers of other countries' forces could be found for the effective, massive force required.

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